

Message Text

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TAGS: MARR, KS, KN, US

SUBJ: MAC SECRETARY'S LETTER OCTOBER 8

REF: CINCUNC 090728Z OCT 76

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF LETTER SENT BY UNC MAC SECRETARY TO KPA/CPV COUNTERPART OCTOBER 8, FOLLOWING UP DISCUSSION OF AUGUST 17 SECRETARIES MEETING AT WHICH UNC SIDE HAD UNDERTAKEN TO OFFER SPECIFIC SUGGESTIONS ON WAYS TO IMPROVE OPERATION OF ARMISTICE AGREEMENT.

BEGIN TEXT

AT THE 378TH MILITARY ARMISTICE COMMISSION MEETING, OUR SENIOR MEMBER ASKED IF YOUR SIDE WOULD BE WILLING TO TRY AND DETERMINE THE COMMON INTERESTS OF THE TWO SIDES AND SUGGESTED THAT THIS BE DISCUSSED AT SECRETARIES' MEETINGS.

AT THE 445TH SECRETARIES' MEETING, YOUR SIDE EXPRESSED A WILLINGNESS TO LISTEN TO UNC IDEAS ON THIS SUBJECT. I SURFACED UNC POSITIONS ON JOINT OBSERVER TEAM INVESTIGATIONS AND FORTIFICATIONS IN THE DMZ AT THAT MEETING, AND SAID I WOULD IDENTIFY OTHER AREAS OF UNC INTEREST PRIOR TO THE NEXT SECRETARIES' MEETING.

ONE OF THE STATED OBJECTIVES OF THE MILITARY ARMISTICE COMMISSION IS TO INSURE THAT BOTH SIDES ADHERE TO THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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LETTER AND SPIRIT OF THE ARMISTICE AGREEMENT. TO THAT

END, I HAVE IDENTIFIED THREE SPECIFIC COMMON INTERESTS WHICH, IF AGREED TO, AND FOLLOWED UP WITH SUBSEQUENT AGREEMENT, COULD ASSIST US IN REALIZING THIS OBJECTIVE. AS WE HAVE DISCUSSED BEFORE, BOTH SIDES WILL HAVE THEIR OWN IDEAS AS TO WHAT OUR COMMON INTERESTS ARE, AND HOW THEY SHOULD BE NEGOTIATED. THE THREE INITIAL AREAS WHICH I PROPOSE WE DISCUSS ARE NOT ALL INCLUSIVE BUT I BELIEVE THEY ARE A GOOD STARTING POINT.

- (1) IT IS IN OUR COMMON INTEREST TO DETERMINE THE COMPLETE FACTS OF ALLEGATIONS OF ARMISTICE VIOLATIONS.
- (2) IT IS IN OUR COMMON INTEREST TO REDUCE TENSION BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES.
- (3) IT IS IN OUR COMMON INTEREST TO IMPROVE THE USE OF MAC ORGANS SO THAT THEY FUNCTION MORE EFFECTIVELY.

IF BOTH SIDES AGREE THAT THESE ARE COMMON INTERESTS, IT WOULD SEEM LOGICAL TO PURSUE MUTUAL AGREEMENTS TO INSURE THOSE INTERESTS ARE ATTAINED AND PROTECTED.

IF YOUR SIDE AGREES THAT IT IS A COMMON INTEREST TO JOINTLY DETERMINE THE FACTS OF MAJOR ALLEGATIONS, THEN THE PRIMARY METHOD WOULD SEEM TO BE THE USE OF JOINT OBSERVER TEAMS TO INVESTIGATE THESE ALLEGATIONS. WE HAVE ALREADY TAKEN A FIRST STEP ALONG THESE LINES WITH THE JOINT OBSERVER TEAM MEETINGS HELD FROM 6 THROUGH 22 SEPTEMBER AND WE COULD CONTINUE FROM THAT PRECEDENT. TO FACILITATE JOINT OBSERVER TEAM INSPECTIONS IT WOULD ALSO SEEM LOGICAL TO INSURE ALL MDL MARKERS ARE IN GOOD REPAIR AND PROPERLY LOCATED.

AFTER REVIEWING YOUR SIDE'S STATEMENTS AT RECENT MAC AND SECRETARIES' MEETINGS, I THINK WE HAVE AGREEMENT THAT IT IS IN OUR COMMON INTEREST TO REDUCE TENSIONS. THERE ARE MANY WAYS WHICH WE COULD GO ABOUT SECURING THAT INTEREST. FOR EXAMPLE, WE COULD DISCUSS MEASURES TO BAN DEMONSTRATIONS IN THE JSA, DEMILITARIZE THE DMZ OR INCREASE THE PEACEFUL USES OF THE DMZ THROUGH AN EXPANSION OF FARMING. THESE AND MANY OTHER IDEAS HAVE BEEN MENTIONED AT SECRETARIES' MEETINGS IN THE PAST.

HOWEVER, IT IS IN THE THIRD AREA WHICH I BELIEVE WE CAN MAKE THE MOST SIGNIFICANT IMMEDIATE PROGRESS AND THEREFORE, IT IS THE AREA WHERE I BELIEVE WE SHOULD CONCENTRATE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TRATE OUR INITIAL EFFORTS. THE IDEA OF STREAMLINING OUR PROCEDURES IS ONE OVER WHICH WE HAVE THE MOST CONTROL. LET ME RAISE A FEW AREAS OF POSSIBLE DISCUSSION. WE HAVE A BASIC DISAGREEMENT ABOUT THE USE OF THE JOINT DUTY OFFICE WHICH WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO OVERCOME. I THINK THAT IT IS LOGICAL THAT ALLEGATIONS OF WRONG DOING SHOULD BE PASSED AS RAPIDLY AS POSSIBLE. AT THE SAME TIME I REALIZE THAT YOU WISH TO INSURE THESE ALLEGATIONS ARE PASSED IN

OPEN FORUM. WE CAN COMBINE THE TWO PROCEDURES, BY PASSING THE ALLEGATIONS IMMEDIATELY THROUGH THE JOINT DUTY OFFICER'S DAILY MEETINGS AND RECAPPING THEM AT SUBSEQUENT SECRETARIES' MEETINGS. IN THIS MANNER BOTH SIDES WILL HAVE THE ALLEGATIONS IN TIME TO PERFORM A MEANINGFUL, TIMELY INVESTIGATION AND YOUR SIDE WILL STILL BE ABLE TO PASS THEM IN AN OPEN FORUM.

IF YOUR SIDE WOULD AGREE TO THIS, OUR SIDE WOULD CONSIDER PROPOSING THAT THE MAC CHARGE THE SECRETARIES WITH NEGOTIATING THE RESOLUTION OF MINOR VIOLATIONS. THIS TOPIC IS SOMETHING WE COULD HANDLE AT THIS LEVEL, BUT IT HAS NEVER BEEN ASSIGNED TO US BY THE MAC.

THERE ARE OTHER MINOR ADJUSTMENTS THAT WOULD STREAMLINE ADMINISTRATION, SUCH AS AGREEING TO INDEFINITELY EXTEND THE "AGREEMENT ON ENTRY INTO AND DEPARTURE FROM THE DEMILITARIZED ZONE BY CIVILIANS" SUBJECT TO 30 DAY NOTICE OF CANCELLATION BY EITHER SIDE. THIS, OF COURSE, IS A SMALL THING, BUT IT IS AN EXAMPLE OF WHAT CAN BE DONE AND AGREEMENT ON THIS WOULD INDICATE A WILLINGNESS TO COOPERATE.

THE SUBJECTS WHICH I HAVE RAISED ARE PRESENTED FOR DISCUSSION ONLY. I SOLICIT YOUR THOUGHTS ON WHAT I HAVE PRESENTED, JUST AS I SOLICIT YOUR IDEAS ON AREAS OF COMMON INTEREST. I HOPE THAT YOU WILL SERIOUSLY CONSIDER MY THOUGHTS AND WE CAN BEGIN A CANDID AND FRANK EXCHANGE WITH A GOAL OF PROGRESS AT OUR FUTURE SECRETARIES' MEETINGS. END TEXT

2. PROPOSALS IN LETTER FOLLOW LONG-STANDING UNC POLICY GUIDELINES, AND ALL HAVE BEEN PRESENTED BEFORE IN ONE MAC FORUM OR ANOTHER.
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